

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5718

ANSWERED ON:30.04.2003

PROJECTS OF COMMUNICATION INFRASTRUCTURE NETWORK

ALE NARENDRA;GANGASANDRA SIDDAPPA BASAVARAJ

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have reviewed recently the implementation of ongoing projects of communication infrastructure network in Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka particularly in tribal areas;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the standard monitoring norms, targets set and achieved in completion of the said projects; and

(c) the details of fresh initiatives taken / proposed to be taken by the Government to develop, promote and strengthen communication infrastructure network in these States and the tribal areas during the current financial year?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRIMATI S MAHAJAN)

Reply in respect of Telecom Sector

(a) & (b): Yes, Sir. BSNL (Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited) is monitoring quarterly achievements of on-going projects of telecommunications infrastructure network in Tribal areas. Targets and Achievements of Tribal Areas in Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka for the year 2002-2003 are as under:-

Parameters Andhra Pradesh Karnataka

	Targets	Achievements	Targets	Achievements
Direct Exchange Lines	2750	4970	21790	15785
Switching Capacity	6100	5498	29920	23690
Telephone Exchange	2	1	3	13
OFC (Route Kms)	0	122	75	128

(c) BSNL has proposed following tentative targets in the Tribal Areas of Andhra Pradesh & Karnataka during the year 2003-2004, subject to demand and availability of resources.

Parameters Andhra Pradesh Karanataka

Direct Exchange Lines	1500	8000
Switching Capacity	1500	12500
OFC (Route Kms)	50	50

Note: Opening of New Exchange not planned as coverage is proposed by WLL (Wireless in Local Loop)

Reply in respect of Postal Sector

(a) & (b): No, Sir. However, implementation of important plan projects, including those in tribal areas are monitored on a monthly basis, keeping in view physical and financial targets approved for the given financial year, by the competent authority.

(c) The development and strengthening of postal network is done through plan schemes implemented through Five year Plans and Annual Plans. The department plans to open 100 Sub Post Offices, 1000 Branch Post Offices and 5000 Panchayat Sanchar Sewa Kendras throughout the country. The allocation of targets for normal and tribal areas in Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka is to be done during the corresponding years of the said plan.

Other schemes to strengthen the infrastructure include computerization of post, mail and administrative offices. During the Tenth plan, it is proposed to computerize and network all head offices, and post offices (having more than 2 counters), including those in Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka and intribal areas. One Head Record Office (HRO) of Karnataka Circle namely Q Division, Bangalore is proposed to be computerized during current financial year plan. The Computerization of various mail offices in Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka Circle is under consideration but the name of the offices have not yet been identified and the same will be done according to merits and availability of funds.

Construction of buildings for operative and administrative offices and staff quarters are also proposed to be implemented during the tenth plan. However, the details of the scheme are yet to be approved by the competent authority.